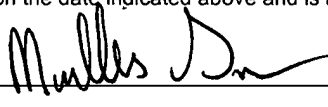


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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: James McLaren                      Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned  
Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned                      Examiner: Not Yet Assigned  
Filed: November 21, 2000  
Title: IMPROVED PROCESS FOR ALCOHOLIC FERMENTATION

Assistant Commissioner For Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination, kindly amend the above-referenced application as follows.

In the specification

At page 14, line 10, delete "ppm," and insert --mg--.

In the claims

Please cancel claims 1-19, and add new claims 20-39 as follows.

--20. A method for alcoholic fermentation, said method comprising employing in said fermentation:

- a) a fermentation micro-organism; and
- b) at least one mineral-rich or mineral-enriched yeast;